

Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



Air Power
Quote of the Week

“What freedom lies in flying, what Godlike powers it gives to men.”
—Charles Lindbergh

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www.laughlin.af.mil

July 12, 2002

Highway renamed to honor veterans

By Jim Teet

Public affairs

Del Rio honored all veterans when it re-named Avenue F as Veterans Boulevard in a special ceremony July 4.

Veterans Boulevard encompasses the portion of Highway 90 from Gibbs to the city limits near the intersection of highways 277 and 377. Signs showing the new name were in place Monday morning.

The dedication was held at Del Rio Convention Center following the Independence Day parade. Activities included remarks by Mayor Dora Alcalá, Col. George Doran, 47th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander, and Texas State Representative Pete Gallego.

Dr. Roberto A. Cuellar, master of ceremonies, led a tribute to all local veterans who died defending the nation, and named all those who died in a roll-call recognition. He also introduced five World War II veterans who served as Del Rio parade marshals that morning.

During her welcome, Alcalá said, “We are honoring our veterans because,



Photo by Senior Airman Brad Pettit

without them, we wouldn't have freedom, democracy. We would not have freedom of speech because we know that these do not come without great sacrifice.”

Colonel Doran commended the more than 350 veterans representatives, elected officials and citizens who attended the ceremony.

“This formal boulevard dedication pays tribute to all veterans, which makes it a fitting highlight of July Fourth activities. But even more so, it pays tribute to Del Rio – for Del Rio represents the heart of America's military forces. Del Rio is ‘Small Town America’ – and

See ‘Veterans,’ page 4



Photo by Airman Timothy J. Stein

(Left) Col. Kenneth Smith Jr., new 47th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander, confers with Maj. Jim Payne, 47th FTW director of staff, in his office Tuesday. Col. George Doran, former 47th FTW Vice Commander, left Laughlin today to become the Pacific Air Forces director of staff at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii.

New vice commander arrives

By Airman Timothy J. Stein

Staff writer

Col. Kenneth Smith Jr. replaced Col. George Doran as 47th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander Thursday.

Colonel Doran is leaving Laughlin for Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, where he will be the Pacific Air Forces director of staff.

Colonel Smith said he hopes he can continue the plans that have already been laid out for the future, such as the new fitness center and quarters, and make sure there are no delays in those projects.

Colonel Smith, who has served at Laughlin before as the 85th Flying Training

Squadron Commander, was most recently assigned to Lackland AFB where he was the 37th Support Group Commander.

“It was really exciting to come back here and see how people take care of this base,” said Colonel Smith. “It is obvious people really care for this base.”

The colonel earned a bachelor of science degree in journalism from the University of Florida in Gainesville, Fla., in 1975. He earned a master's degree in political science from North West Oklahoma State University in Alva, Okla., in 1986. In 1993, Colonel

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the inside
Scoop

Viewpoints:

The President remembers Gen. Benjamin Davis, former Tuskegee Airmen Commander, who died July 4.

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Laughlin people help out nearby communities after three feet of rain creates devastating floods in Texas.

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The 47th Medical Operations Squadron group practice manager is featured as the Laughlin XLER.

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Mission status:

(As of July 1)

Days ahead (+) or behind (-)

T-37 -0.4

T-1 -1.8

T-38 -1.95

President honors Air Force pioneer

By **George W. Bush**
President

On July 4th, America lost a true hero when Gen. Benjamin Oliver Davis Jr. died at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Throughout his career, General Davis served the cause of freedom with distinction and dignity. He will be sorely missed. On behalf of a grateful Nation, Laura and I send our condolences to the Davis family.

We will remember General Davis most for his leadership of the legendary Tuskegee Airmen during World War II. The segregated African-American 332nd Fighter Group flew more than 15,000 sorties against the Nazi Luftwaffe, destroyed over 250 enemy aircraft, and never lost a single Allied plane flying under its escort protection. Davis' leadership and the dazzling success of his Tuskegee Airman contributed greatly to the victory over fascism abroad – and to important victories over dis-

crimination here at home, especially the desegregation of the Armed Services ordered by President Truman in 1948.

The quiet courage, discipline, and high achievement of the Tuskegee Airmen simply mirrored the qualities that Benjamin Davis Jr. demonstrated throughout his career. A graduate of West Point, he was a recipient of the Silver Star and Distinguished Flying Cross and was the first African American in the Air Force to earn a star. He retired with the rank of lieutenant general and was awarded his fourth star after his retirement in 1998. His passing on the date of our Nation's Indepen-



Photo by Helene Stikkel

Former President Bill Clinton and Elnora Davis McLendon (right) pin the fourth star on the epaulets of retired Gen. Benjamin O. Davis during a White House ceremony Dec. 9, 1998. Davis, who commanded the famed Tuskegee Airmen during World War II, died July 4 at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington of Alzheimer's disease at age 89.

dence underscores the independence and pride with which he served our nation's highest ideals. General Davis left our country better than he found it and his legacy will endure for as long as Americans seek to protect – and perfect – our Union.

Rising 6

By **Tech. Sgt. Chris Trujillo**
47th Contracting Squadron contract administrator

Four-year hitch becomes a career

More than 15 years ago, I was a young man with a family having trouble finding a job to support them. I had gone to school to become a carpenter. Carpentry jobs were hard to come by. So I took any job I could find to make some money. I was not very proud of myself at that time because I felt I was letting my family down.

I had taken a carpentry job in Clovis, N.M. One morning while I was getting my morning coffee at one of the local convenience stores, I saw some airmen in uniform. I remember I was impressed with the way they looked. I come from a family of Army people and that was the first time I had seen anyone in an Air Force uniform.

Well it wasn't long after that I decided I had to do something to bet-

ter provide for my family. Naturally, the Army came to mind first, but I still had the memory of those airmen in Clovis. So I decided to contact the Air Force recruiter first and see what happened. Needless to say, the Air Force accepted me, and my career was started.

Like most airmen I only intended to enlist for four years. I arrived at my first base and hit the ground running. I wanted to learn as much as I could, as fast as I could, so I could take my skills and use them on the outside when I left the Air Force.

Supervisors challenged me constantly. Because of my initiative, I was given the toughest tasks and I enjoyed it. The Air Force had given me a chance and I wanted to do the best job I could to repay it. I was supporting my family and I

was proud.

When it got close to the end of my enlistment, I had a decision to make, stay in or get out. The Air Force offered stability, and though the pay wasn't great, it provided me the opportunity to support my family and have a career. I could stay in the Air Force or I could get out and take my chances in the real world. Along with my wife, we decided to stay in. Now I had a career.

As I progressed in my career, I became more aware of the Air Force. Winning the Cold War and the Gulf War gave me a great perspective of the Air Force. Having been exempt from mobility and exercises earlier, I didn't get a chance to realize what the Air Force was

See 'Trujillo,' page 3



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Submissions can be e-mailed to: bradley.pettit@laughlin.af.mil timothy.stein@laughlin.af.mil

*“Excellence –
not our goal,
but our
standard.”*

– 47th FTW motto

Campaign seeks to reduce motorcycle accidents

By Master Sgt. Dave Hembroff

Altus Air Force Base, Okla.
97th Air Mobility Wing

If it were possible to reduce the chance of an automobile accident by only 10 percent in one simple act, most people would do it.

In fact, when the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration identifies these acts, such as driving with the headlights on or not drinking and driving, people take notice.

In the case of motorcycles, drivers' simply "taking notice" is an act that could cut the incidence of rider deaths each year by half.

This year, the American Motorcyclist Association, a rights organization for motorcyclists, began the "Motorcyclists Matter" campaign. This multi-component effort is designed to educate drivers about motorcycles, as well as enact legislation that penalizes automobile operators when they violate the motorcyclist's right of way and cause an accident.

More than two-thirds of car-motorcycle crashes and nearly half of all motorcycle crashes are caused by drivers, not by motorcyclists, according to AMA research.

While accidents in general are declining as a proportion of vehicles registered, motorcycle accident data shows that rider accidents are going up. As vehicle fatalities declined by one-tenth of a percent overall from 2000 to 2001, motorcycle fatalities increased by more than seven percent. Only one other category posted gains: light trucks and vans, which rose by just over one percent.

This increase in rider deaths is not an anomaly. From 1997 through 2001, rider fatalities have increased every year after a steady decline over the previous decade. In the Air Force, as well, we are seeing a jump in fatalities this year to a number not seen since the early 1990s, and it is still early in the riding season.

It is true car drivers do not cause all motor-

cycle accidents. The AMA points out that too much speed and lack of rider training account for a significant number of motorcycle accidents. On the other hand, almost half of the deaths and injuries to riders could be eliminated if drivers were more aware of motorcycles. In short, drivers have to actively search for motorcycles in the traffic mix and yield to them just as they would to other cars.

Many drivers don't pay a lot of attention to motorcycles, but no one really knows why. After a collision between a car and a motorcycle, the driver most often says, "I didn't see him." Some experts believe drivers don't see motorcycles as a threat, and therefore don't worry about violating the motorcycle's right of way. Another theory supposes that it is too hard to judge the true speed of an approaching rider. Some accident-involved drivers have told police they believed motorcycles never have the right of way.

Motorcyclists, on the other hand, are trained to be especially aware of other users of the road. They have to be, as a rider is three times more likely to die and 16 times more likely to be injured in an accident as a passenger car occupant. Avoiding accidents is paramount, and an effective system Motorcycle Safety Foundation-trained riders learn – called SEE – can be easily adapted to any user of the road.

The three steps to the SEE system are:

- Search: Aggressively seek out other users of the road
- Evaluate: Determine the dangers and intentions of those other users
- Execute: Make a plan to avoid users and follow it

The AMA believes education is the key to safer motorcycling, but the ultimate measure of success will be if all users of the road learn to share the highway, and rider injuries and deaths each year decrease.

(Courtesy of AETC News Service)

Actionline 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle.



Rick Rosborg
Col. Rick Rosborg
47th FTW Commander

Moving troubles

Question: I have a problem with my permanent change of station move. My husband is TDY and I work full time. Trying to find time to attend all the appointments for the move, especially the transportation management office and the housing walk through, has been difficult because everything closes down at 4:30 p.m. and I usually don't get home until 4:15 p.m. at the earliest. I was wondering if the base could start staying open late one day every week or two until 6 p.m.

Answer: If anyone has a hardship caused by the Family Housing Office only being open during normal duty hours, we will try to accommodate them on a case-by-case basis.

The TMO portion of a move is not a base function that has normal hours. It is a coordinated effort between the Air Force Transportation Office and a commercial mover. Since the Air Force is not the sole customer of the mover, we must mutually agree upon a time and date to satisfy every customer and ensure the job is completed in a timely and efficient manner.

The commercial movers we deal with must schedule their workforce and equipment to satisfy all requirements. In turn, the TMO must make all attempts to have someone in place to represent our customers. We understand your concerns, and do make every attempt to accommodate our members who have extenuating circumstances on a case-by-case basis. Discussing your special needs with one of our customer service representatives will meet this goal.

'Trujillo,' from page 2

capable of.

A few years later, I received the news that I had to train out of reprographics because the field was being civilianized. I loved my job, but did not have a choice, so I retrained into contracting.

I went from being at the top of my game in repro to starting over in a new job. Even after a

couple of years, I didn't know if I liked the new job, but I did it as best I could because of the pride I have in wearing the uniform.

Everyone has a job to do, and even if you don't like it, you should do the best you can so the mission gets accomplished. We should all be proud in the fact that we are the defenders of this great nation, and regardless of the level of support the public gives the military, we must still do our job.

Change of command

The 86th Flying Training Squadron will hold a change-of-command ceremony at 8:30 a.m. July 19 on the flightline in front of base operations.

Lt. Col. Robert Rosedale will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Jeffrey Kubiak.

For more information, call Capt. Jesse Baker at 298-5170.

Thrift Savings Plan

If you enrolled in the Thrift Savings Plan this open season in May or June, you will see a deduction from your pay Monday. If you enroll in July, you will see a deduction from your pay Aug. 15.

TSP will not post any money to your account until it has the entire contribution (if you choose to contribute 6 percent, 3 percent will be taken from the mid month pay, and 3 percent will be taken from the end of month pay) once the entire 6 percent has been taken, your TSP account will be posted.

Remember, if you want to contribute any portion of special, incentive or bonus pay, you first must contribute from your basic pay.

If you have questions about your account, call (504) 253-8777 or (504) 255-6000.

Military Personnel Flight

The Military Personnel Flight's customer ser-

Newsline

vice office will close for all but essential services from July 29-31. During this time an installation and training team will be in place to prepare Laughlin for issuance of the Common Access Card.

Customer service will be limited to emergency actions only – delay or stoppage of military benefits. Customers are urged to check dependent ID cards for expiration dates before limited service begins.

Questions about the MPF closure can be directed to the customer service office at 298-5276 or 298-5277.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Timothy Adkins at 298-5244.

Supply point of contact

William Centifanti and Claudio Sotelo are the points of contact for base supply customer service. They can assist you in suspected price discrepancies, reporting fraud, waste and abuse incidents, provide technical assistance and resolve complaints, questions or concerns.

They also are the points of contact for controlling required Supply actions and processing transactions for credit card purchases with the Govern-

ment Purchase Card. They are also the points of contact to obtain the new Standard Asset Tracking System SMART card.

Centifanti and Sotelo are located in building 77, room 112. They may be reached at 298-4225 or 298-5727.

Awards luncheon

The 47th Flying Training Wing second quarterly awards luncheon is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. July 24 at Club XL.

All nominees should R.S.V.P. by calling 298-6464. Commanders and distinguished visitors should R.S.V.P. by calling 298-4111. The last day to R.S.V.P. is Thursday. All others wishing to attend should contact their first sergeants.

For more information, call Master Sgt. James Martin at 298-5406.

Induction ceremony

The 47th Flying Training Wing is hosting a Senior NCO Induction Ceremony Jul 27 at Club XL. Social hour is at 6:15 p.m. and dinner starts at 7.

Those wishing to attend should R.S.V.P. by Monday. Military members should wear mess dress or semiformal and civilians should wear business attire.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Jorge Caro at 298-5466 or 298-5267.



Photo by Dave Niebergall

Ready, aim, shower

Col. George Doran, former 47th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander, runs from his wife, Kathy, who is armed with a fire hose to wet him down following his final flight at Laughlin Air Force Base. Colonel Doran will move on to Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, where he will be the Pacific Air Forces director of staff.

'Veterans,' from page 1

small-town America has always provided the lion's share of the men and women who answer the call to serve their nation through military service." He concluded, "I am both proud and grateful to represent the active military community in this permanent recognition and tribute to small-town America

and patriotism. Congratulations Del Rio!"

Gallego added to the events by noting, "Let's be different in recognizing every day how lucky we are, thanking not only God, but every man and woman who sacrificed themselves so we can sit here in Del Rio, Texas, to talk about concepts such as freedom and independence."

'Vice,' from page 1

Smith completed Air War College by seminar.

Among his awards and decorations are the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

Interested in the Air Force?

*Call Del Rio's Air Force recruiter
at 774-0911.*

Please recycle this newspaper.

SECAF creates new medal, awards

The Air Force's top civilian leader recently authorized the creation of a new medal and two new awards to recognize outstanding achievement or service in wartime operations.

The Air Force Campaign Medal will recognize significant direct contributions to wartime operations, according to Dr. James G. Roche, Secretary of the Air Force.

"The awarding of campaign medals to specially recognize people and units who fight our wars is a long-standing military tradition," Roche said.

"Historically, the Department of Defense's criteria for such awards have centered on geography to define the area of combat operations," he said. "In light of the expeditionary aerospace force environment and the transformation in the way the Air Force carries out its missions today, such criteria doesn't allow us to appropriately recognize our people who contribute directly and significantly to the success of wartime campaigns from outside the area of combat operations."

Therefore, in accordance with DOD policy, Roche authorized the creation of a medal to be given to Air Force people who are not eligible for a DOD campaign medal but directly supported combat operations from a location outside the geographic area of operations.

The secretary said he also wants to ensure units are properly recognized for their actions in support of wartime efforts and has established two new Air Force unit awards.

The first award, the Gallant Unit Citation, will recognize units for their significant combat heroism below that currently required for the Presidential Unit Citation. The second, the Meritorious Unit Award, will honor units for their outstanding achievement in direct support of combat operations.

The specific design and criteria for the new medal and awards are currently being reviewed, and a final decision on what they will look like and who is authorized to wear them will be reached in the next few months, Roche said.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Thinking about getting out?

Call the career assistance adviser at
298-5456 for guidance.



(Courtesy photo)

Four AETC pilots chosen for Air Force Thunderbirds

Four pilots assigned to Air Education and Training Command units were selected recently to join the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, the Air Force air demonstration team.

Three officers stationed at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., and one assigned to Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., were selected to fill half the team's pilot slots.

Those selected from Luke are Maj. Randy Redell, 62nd Fighter Squadron; Capt. Matthew Beckley, 308th Fighter Squadron; and Capt. Mark Smith, 310th Fighter Squadron. Tyndall's selection is Capt. Christopher R. Stricklin, 1st Fighter Squadron.

All four start their five-month training program Nov. 1 in preparation for the 2003 show season, which is set to begin in March.

The Thunderbirds fly the F-16 Fighting Falcon and their mission is to support Air Force recruiting and retention programs, reinforce public confidence in the Air Force and demonstrate to the public the professional competence of Air Force professionals, according to the team's Web site at <http://www.airforce.com/thunderbirds>. They also represent the United States and its armed forces to other nations worldwide.

In fact, Redell said the Thunderbirds played a significant role in his decision to join the Air Force.

"I saw the Thunderbirds perform in high school," said Redell, who does not come from family with a military background. "After that, I was hooked. Once I saw them, I set my sights on making that team. It's been a 20-year process. ... I feel extremely fortunate and blessed, and look forward to providing an opportunity to positively affect people's lives, whether they join the Air Force or not."

Redell will become the team's operations officer and assigned to the No. 7 jet.

"I'm overwhelmed," said Stricklin, who will fly the No. 6 jet as the opposing solo pilot. "It hasn't quite sunk in yet because everything happened so fast. It's a huge responsibility and an honor to represent the Air Force in this way."

Like the others, Beckley said he is thrilled at his selection to represent the Air Force as a Thunderbirds' member.

"I love what I do and I love being a fighter pilot," Beckley said. "This job will give me the opportunity to get out there and try to spark an interest in America's youth for service in the Air Force. There are jobs out there that pay more, but I guarantee no other profession has the opportunities, job satisfaction and esprit de corps we enjoy as members of the Air Force."

All four, like most officers on the team, will serve two years. Each year, half the team changes, according to the Thunderbirds' Web site.

Since the unit's inception in 1953, more than 315 million people in all 50 states and 60 foreign countries have witnessed the red, white, and blue jets in more than 3,500 official aerial demonstrations.

(Portions courtesy of the Luke Thunderbolt and Tyndall's Gulf Defender newspapers)

Top wheels

Jesus Martinez, 47th Contracting Squadron business operations director, judges a fire truck during the Top Wheels Competition June 20. The quarterly award is given to vehicles which are clean and well maintained. Martinez and Nick Campiglia,

47th Services Division chief, were the judges for the contest. Mike Sosa, 47th Support Group pickup and delivery, won in the general purpose category. The fire department took first place in the special purpose category.

Bush goals: war, economy, protecting homeland

Winning the war on terrorism and protecting the American homeland require a sustained national commitment, according to President George W. Bush.

At a late afternoon White House press conference July 8, the president urged Congress to help advance three national goals. "We need to win the war; we need to protect our homeland; and we need to strengthen our economy," he said.

"Congress simply must fund our troops while they're fighting a war," Bush said. Calling on the Senate to pass the fiscal 2003 defense appropriations act, he stressed that the nation is at war and "budget priorities and actions need to reflect that reality."

The president also said Congress must provide funds to improve security at U.S. airports, noting that "further delay is intolerable."

Asked if U.S. officials are going to find Osama bin Laden before the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 attack on America, Bush replied that the "war on terror is a lot bigger than one person." He said U.S. officials haven't heard from the al Qaeda leader in a long time.

"Osama bin Laden, he may be alive. If he is, we'll get him," Bush vowed. "If he's not alive, we got him," he added, drawing laughter from the press corps.

Still, the war on terrorism is going to be a long struggle, he stressed. "We're talking about networks that need to

be disrupted, plans that need to be stopped. These people are cold-blooded killers. They're interested in killing innocent Americans, still. And therefore, we will continue to pursue them."

Turning to Iraq, Bush acknowledged he has been involved in military, diplomatic and financial planning aimed at removing dictator Saddam Hussein.

"It's the state policy of this government to have a regime change, ... and we'll use all tools at our disposal to do so," he said. "I'm a patient person, but I do firmly believe the world will be safer and more peaceful if there's a regime change in that government."

(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)



Photo by Senior Airman Brad Pettit

Nice looking yard

1st Lt. Bradley Opp, 85th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot, wife Robyn, and daughter, Madison, 3 months, spend some time in their Laughlin yard Thursday. The 47th Civil Engineer Squadron chose the Opps' yard as the best-looking yard of June in officer housing. Winners for the best looking yard in enlisted housing were Master Sgt. Timothy and Diana Adkins, 47th Mission Support Squadron, while Capt. Conrad Freedom, 84th Flying Training Squadron, won for the mobile home category.

Base welcomes new squadron commander

Compiled from staff reports

A new squadron commander recently joined Team XL.

Maj. Arthur Price assumed command of the 47th Communications Squadron in a change-of-command ceremony July 1.

Hometown: Fairmont, W. Va.

Time in service: 14 years, 10 months

Education: Bachelor of Science Degree in physical education from West Virginia University; Master of Science degree in public administration from Oklahoma University; Master of Arts degree in Operational Art of Military Science from Air Command and Staff College.

Previous assignments: Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.; Maxwell AFB, Ala.; Pentagon;

Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Sydney, Australia; Osan Air Base, Korea; and Castle AFB, Calif.

Greatest feat: Becoming a squadron commander

Leadership philosophy: If you're not the lead dog, the scenery never changes.

Personal hero: My mother

Favorite quote: Lead, follow, or get out of the way.

Hobbies: Football, basketball, baseball, traveling, cooking and my kids

Bad habit: Who said I had a bad habit?



Price

New edition of Air Force TV News airs on access channel

AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS – A new edition of Air Force Television News is now airing on the commander's access channel, cable channel 34, Monday through Friday at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

The following are what will be showing:

Air Force assistance in fighting wildfires in two states highlights the latest edition of Air Force Television News.

Tech. Sgt. David Pullen updates efforts by Reserve and Air National Guard crews in their battle against Colorado's largest wildfire; Senior Airman Kevin Dennison is on the ground in Arizona to report on efforts there by guardsmen to help combat that state's biggest wildfire.

Staff Sgt. Marty Rush is on the island of Hawaii to report on how forward air controllers work with members of the Civil Air Patrol to provide real-world training. Staff Sgt. Leigh Bellinger is in the unlikely state of Wisconsin covering exercises intended to prepare people for duty in Southwest Asia.

In other news, Staff Sgt. Bill Scherer watches an A-10 Thunderbolt II competition in the sky over Ft. Drum, N.Y., while Staff Sgt. Joe Wallace goes inside a correctional confinement unit at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., to show the consequences in the Air Force of breaking the law.

News segments feature Lt. Gen. Daniel James III assuming command of the National Guard Bureau, and Gerald Murray becoming the 14th chief master sergeant of the Air Force in ceremonies at Bolling AFB, DC.

Air Force Television News is a biweekly production of Air Force News Service. It is distributed on videotape to more than 3,000 military and civilian outlets worldwide, and is seen on more than 700 cable television outlets nationwide. It is also available on the Internet at www.af.mil, and can be seen daily on The Pentagon Channel. The program is the only military production offered with closed captioning. Viewers can comment on the program by sending e-mail to afnews@afnews.af.mil.

New statements implemented

Gen. Don Cook, commander of Air Education and Training Command, has announced new mission and vision statements for the command. The new statements are in effect immediately.

AETC Mission: "The First Command ... Recruiting, training, and educating professional airmen to sustain the combat capability of America's Air Force"

AETC Vision: "Professionals integrating innovation and technology to recruit, train, and educate tomorrow's air and space leaders"

Members of the command should update any documents and products that contain the old mission or vision statements, according to AETC personnel officials.

(Courtesy of AETC News Service)

Friday, the Border Eagle.
Wednesday, this newspaper:
<http://www.af.mil/newspaper>

Laughlin members help with flood relief

By 1st Lt. Paula Kurtz

Public affairs chief

While many Laughlin members took advantage of last week's holiday to relax and have a little bit of fun, a few others spent the weekend helping flood victims clean up after the storm.

Although Del Rio wasn't heavily damaged by the storm, nearby areas such as Uvalde and Kerrville were hit pretty hard, with many people evacuated from their homes.

Jane Pratt, branch manager for the Del Rio chapter of the American Red Cross, headed to Uvalde Saturday morning after receiving a call from the district headquarters in San Antonio.

"The thought was that if the Medina dam flooded, there could be an overflow of people evacuating to Uvalde's shelter," said Pratt, who knows from experience how quickly a situation can deteriorate after working Del Rio's Hurricane Charlie flood disaster in 1998. Pratt, who is the only Red Cross staff member assigned to the Del Rio branch, joined her Uvalde branch counterpart and six national Red Cross volunteers who had responded to support the relief effort.

"This flood wasn't nearly as devastating (for Uvalde) as the one in '98," explained Pratt, who helped man the Uvalde shelter Saturday and Sunday, handing out cleaning kits and serving meals and snacks. "This time, people had some warning, and they brought their VCRs and their pajamas, and mama was sitting over there crocheting. In '98 people lost everything. Some came in wearing

plastic bags until we could get clothes on them."

In fact, by the time Pratt arrived in Uvalde on Saturday, many of the 252 people who stayed in the shelter Tuesday night had already returned to their homes to begin the clean-up process. By 1 p.m., the threat of a dam overflow had subsided and Pratt made the call to give the 24-hour notice prior to closing the Uvalde shelter.

A little further north in her hometown of Kerrville, Airman 1st Class Rebecca Garcia and her husband were helping Rebecca's grandparents recover from the flood.

Surrounded by family — parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and brothers — there was no shortage of help. Still, Garcia said it was, "neat to see everyone come together — not just family, but everyone in the neighborhood."

Having lived in the same house for the past 41 years, Garcia said her grandparents had experienced flooding in their yard before, but this time they were surprised when water started pouring into their home.

"It was coming in so fast, they couldn't get out the door," said Garcia, an aeromedical apprentice in the 47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron. "They climbed up on the kitchen table to get away from the water until my brother could come get them."

Once the two-foot floodwaters receded,

Garcia and the family worked to clean out the mud and debris left in her grandparents' home and yard. When they weren't working on her grandparents' house, the Garcia's traveled around town visiting and helping other friends and relatives.

Garcia points out that despite the damage, her grandparents were very lucky they didn't lose more to the floodwaters.

"Three houses near my grandparents were flooded off their foundations," Garcia explained, "and a friend down the street lost practically ev-

everything. It was really sad to see people lose all of their stuff."

According to Pratt, more than 48,000 homes were affected in the flood of 2002, compared to the 976 Del Rio families displaced in 1998.

Border Federal Credit Union has opened an account for donations

for the Texas flood victims. Anyone wishing to make a donation can contact Ginger Lyons at 774-3503, extension 7505. Money will be designated to the Red Cross to help affected Texas counties.

The American Red Cross offers free disaster training for anyone wanting to know how to best prepare before a flood, or for those wishing to serve as Red Cross volunteers during a disaster. Anyone interested can call the Del Rio Branch of the American Red Cross at 298-6315 or 775-8626.

"Three houses near my grandparents were flooded off their foundations. And a friend down the street lost practically everything. It was really sad to see people lose all of their stuff."

-- Airman 1st Class Rebecca Garcia,
47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron

Air Force releases findings in trainee's death

The Air Force released a report July 2 of investigation into the death of Airman Basic Stephen W. Fortune, citing the cause of death as a ruptured aortic aneurysm.

The investigation board determined the aneurysm was congenital and existed before Airman Fortune entered the Air Force.

Airman Fortune died on May 24, after he collapsed while negotiating an obstacle course during basic military

training at Lackland Air Force Base.

The report was the result of an investigation directed by Maj. Gen. John F. Regni, Keesler AFB, Miss, 2nd Air Force Commander.

Col. Robert Simmons, Sheppard Air Force Base 982nd Training Group Commander, was appointed to conduct the investigation. The investigation included interviews and statements from military training instruc-

tors, medical personnel and many of the trainees who participated in the run. The investigation was directed to discover the facts surrounding Fortune's death.

"On behalf of the entire Air Force family, I offer my sincere sympathy to the family, friends and fellow trainees of Stephen Fortune," said Regni. "We lost a fine young airman."

(Courtesy of Air Force
Print News)



Laughlin Salutes

Graduates

NCO Academy

- ♦ Tech. Sgt. Gregory Gipson, 47th Communications Squadron
- ♦ Tech. Sgt. William Meyers, 47th Communications Squadron
- ♦ Tech. Sgt. Marvin Wright,

47th Operations Support Squadron

- ♦ Tech. Sgt. Dora Caniglia, 47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron
- Airman Leadership School**
- ♦ Senior Airman Alan James, 47th Communications Squadron

Do the world a favor, recycle this newspaper.

Air Force band celebrates July 4 New York style

By Master Sgt. Karen Petitt
Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

On Independence Day, the nation looked to the citizens of New York to see how they would celebrate America's birthday after Sept. 11. The Air Force Band of Mid-America stepped in to help them tell the world, "We're still standing!"

Mayor Michael Bloomberg said his city would set the tone for the country by continuing with the traditional Macy's Fireworks Spectacular. The fireworks display, unlike any other, uses more than 20,000 pyrotechnic shells set up on five barges along the East River in a 30-minute show. The event was broadcast live on NBC as part of its "A Time For Heroes" salute, which had an estimated 2 million viewers.

The U.S. Air Force Band of Mid-America, from Scott Air Force Base, Ill., performed patriotic music before the show and at commercial breaks to the crowd of 200,000 lined up on the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Expressway.

"When we were talking about where we'd like to be for this Fourth of July, we all knew we wanted to be in New York City," said band commander and conductor Lt. Col. Steven Grimo. "I'm from the East Coast, so I knew anything big would be happening here or in Boston or Philadelphia...so when this opportunity came up, we definitely wanted to be there for it!"

The gig came about through a "Good Morning, America!" contact at ABC from last year's Fourth of July performance in Philadelphia where the band not only played during the morning show, but supported a presidential speech, a United Nations medal presentation and the evening parade as well. The GMA contact put the band organizers in touch with the folks at Macy's.

As the band prepared for the Macy's event, two other opportuni-



Photo by Master Sgt. Karen Petitt

The Air Force Band of Mid-America performs patriotic songs during Macy's Fourth of July Spectacular on New York City's East River. Earlier that day, the band played for ABC's "Good Morning America" Fourth of July

broadcast at Times Square in New York City. The band, from Scott Air Force Base, Ill., also played the national anthem at Yankee Stadium where they received a standing ovation.

ties came along – one to perform the national anthem for the New York Yankees vs. Cleveland Indians game, which was shown on ESPN2, and the other for GMA, which featured the band in numerous segments throughout the morning broadcast.

For 18-year-old Airman Frank Clayton, the chance to play his saxophone in New York City was an opportunity of a lifetime.

"I've done a lot of things here I never thought I'd do," he said. "I've played in Times Square (for GMA), and got to stand at the home plate at Yankee Stadium and play our national anthem. As we walked out, the crowd gave us a standing ovation. It took us a couple of minutes to march off the field...and to hear this packed stadium cheering for us was awesome! Then I got to finish off the day with this incredible fireworks display on the river...it was just amazing. But, I also couldn't help thinking about the victims of

Sept. 11. I thought that just by being here to help New York City tell the world that 'we're still standing' has been worth all the effort."

The 40 band members started their day at 5 a.m. and ended it well after midnight, performing in ceremonial dress, in temperatures exceeding 100 degrees.

"It was a tough day for us physically, but I wouldn't have missed this for anything," said Airman 1st Class Jarrett Robinett, a percussionist. "Besides, I couldn't stop thinking of all of our troops spending more than just one hot day in Afghanistan or Saudi Arabia to fight this war.

"And I wasn't the only one thinking of our troops overseas," he said. "While we were waiting backstage at the Macy's event, we were able to talk with members of the New York Police Department. We were telling them what a great job they were doing, and in return, they were telling us

they were thinking of our guys on the front line. There was a deep sense of mutual respect and rapport."

For others, the day was a culmination of months of hard work and last-minute juggling and coordinating, as well as a time of personal reflection.

"It was an honor to be in New York City, especially since it was the July Fourth after Sept. 11," said Chief Master Sgt. Dave Rogers, command band manager. "It was great to see the spirit of the city and the entire country. I saw a real determination, maybe even a message sent to the world to echo the president's declaration that we will prevail. Being in Philadelphia last year was meaningful as it was symbolic of our national principles and liberty. This Independence Day, when our brothers and sisters are in harm's way fighting a war, it's symbolic of our national resolve."

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Thinking about getting out? Think again!
Call the career assistance adviser at 298-5456 for guidance.

Training the
WORLD'S BEST PILOTS
Instructor Pilot Focus

Name: Capt. Emil Bliss
Squadron: 85th Flying
Training Squadron
Pilot Training Base:
Laughlin Air Force Base
Date of Graduation:
Feb. 18, 2000
**Aircraft you flew and
base you were sta-
tioned before**
Laughlin? T-37/T-38
at Laughlin



Bliss

Mission of your primary aircraft? To teach pe-
destrians to be pilots
**What is the most important thing you learned at
pilot training besides learning to fly?** The true
meanings of trust and teamwork
**What advice would you give SUPT students at
Laughlin?** Take the time to develop strong friend-
ships with your classmates. They are the people that
make SUPT training easier and more fun both on and
off duty.

The *XL*er



Photo by Senior Airman Brad Pettit

1st Lt. Hugh Kenrick

47th Medical Operations Squadron group practice manager

Hometown: Pittsburgh, Pa.

Family: Mom, Patricia; dad, Charles; brothers, Alex, Graham and Blair; sister, Charlotte.

Time at Laughlin: 1 year, 3 months

Time in service: 1 year, 7 months

Greatest accomplishment: Maintaining a positive attitude

Hobbies: Golfing and traveling

Bad habit: Cursing

Favorite film: Heat

Favorite musician: Bono

If you could spend one hour with any person, who would it be and why? Any of my siblings; I don't get to see them much.

Chapel Schedule



Catholic

Saturday

● 5 p.m., Mass

Sunday

● 9:30 a.m., Mass

● 11 a.m., Little Rock Scripture Study in Chapel Fellowship Hall

Thursday

● 6 p.m., Choir

Tuesday-

● 12:05 p.m., Mass

Friday

● 12:05 p.m. and 7 p.m., Holy Days of Obligation

Reconciliation Before Sunday Mass, Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. and by appointment

Religious Education/

Bible Study

● 11 a.m. and noon Sunday

Jewish

● Call Max Stool at 775-4519

Muslim

● Call Mostafa Salama at 768-9200

Nondenominational

Friday

● 7 p.m., Unity in Community Services

Protestant

Sunday

● 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Sunday school for all ages in chapel annex

● 11 a.m., General worship

● 6 p.m., Officer Christian Fellowship

Wednesday

● 7 p.m., Choir at chapel

For more information on chapel events and services, call 298-5111.



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Program data
system at

[https://
ideas.satx.disa.mil](https://ideas.satx.disa.mil),
or call 298-5236.

Sportslines **OSS stays on top, defeats CCS, 16-11**

5K fun run

The XL Fitness Center will host a 5K fun run starting at 8 a.m. Saturday at the base bike trail next to the football field parking lot.

For more information, call 298-5251.

Softball standings

American League

OSS #1	6-2
LCSAM 1	5-3
86th FTS	5-4
87th FTS	4-5
84/85 FTS	3-4
Trend western	0-12

National League

Med Group	6-0
CES	6-1
LSI	5-1
SFS	4-3
CCS	4-4
LCSAM 2	1-4
OSS 2	2-10



By Airman
Timothy J. Stein
Staff writer

The 47th Operations Support Squadron Team One defeated the contracting/communication squad, 16-11, in the early game Wednesday at Babe Ruth Field.

OSS took the lead early and was able to hold back CCS every time they tried to make a charge. With this win, OSS remains in first place in the American League.

CCS started the scoring in the first inning with one run. OSS quickly answered with four, the first two coming off a Justin Grard triple. After the first inning the score was 4-1 in favor of OSS. Try as they did, CCS was never able to mount enough offense to overcome the bats of OSS.

CCS started the second inning with their bats swinging. The first two batters reached base. Ryan Faircloth then hit a sacrifice to score a run, making the score 4-2. Two batters and two outs later, OSS stopped what could have been a nice

rally for CCS. OSS scored five runs in the bottom of the second, bringing the score to 9-2.

CCS was able to get one run in the third, but the OSS answered with three of their own.

The fourth inning started with CCS behind, 12-3. With time running down, the squad needed some runs. Dan Thiel started the inning with a triple. The hits kept coming after that. By the end of their half of the inning, CCS had pulled to within four runs. OSS managed to get one run in the bottom of the fourth to bring the score to 13-8 going into the fifth. OSS didn't allow a run in the top of the fifth. When up to bat, they increased their lead to 16-8 with single after single.

Down by eight runs, CCS would have to score some runs in the top of the sixth inning if they wanted to win. They managed to score three, but that wouldn't be enough. OSS won with a final score of 16-11.

In other games Wednesday,



Photo by Airman Timothy J. Stein

Justin Grard, OSS left fielder, safely slides under the tag of CCS pitcher Jesus Martinez. OSS won the game 16-11 and remain on top of the American league standings.

day, Lear Siegler, Inc. defeated the 87th Flying Training Squadron, 16-5, and the

47th Civil Engineer Squadron defeated the 47th Security Forces Squadron, 15-5.

XL Fitness Center hours

Monday – Thursday: 5 a.m. to midnight Friday: 5 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday, Holidays: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Care providers examine deployment-related health concerns

By Dr. (Capt.) Lisa Firestone
47th Medical Group flight surgeon

Is the health concern that causes you to seek care today related to a deployment?

This question will now be asked by primary care providers during each health care visit. This question and the information that stems from it are part of an initiative to find early and track deployment-related health concerns. In doing so, physicians will be better able to protect and treat patients with similar concerns.

Active-duty members and

spouses will be asked this question regarding deployment health concerns. Although not everyone deploys, deployments can affect all family members. Patients who do not deploy may still have health questions regarding the deployment of a loved one. Examples of deployments include military liaison and training support, humanitarian assistance, low-intensity conflict and combat.

When you return from a deployment, you may have a number of questions regarding new physical

symptoms that you did not notice prior to your deployment. It is important to discuss these concerns with primary care providers and work with them to establish a plan of action and treatment. For example, let the physician know if you are experiencing any prolonged skin rashes, insomnia or gastrointestinal problems including diarrhea or constipation.

While it may be frustrating to be suffering from these symptoms, develop a partnership with your physician. Be open and honest about all

of your symptoms, how long they have been present, and what you have done to treat them. Let your physician know if you have any underlying concerns that you have been too scared to voice out loud. If you don't give them all of the necessary information, your physician will be unable to solve the puzzle.

Tell your provider if you think a deployment has affected your health so that we can protect you and others. If you have any questions, call the Deployment Health Clinical Center at (866) 559-1627.